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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN JOSE DIVISION**

DR. ANDREW FORREST,

Plaintiff,

v.

META PLATFORMS, INC.

Defendant.

Case No. 22-CV-03699-PCP (VKD)

**[PROPOSED] ORDER RE
OCTOBER 3, 2025
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCOVERY
DISPUTE RE NATIVE DATA**

The Honorable Virginia K. DeMarchi

MODIFIED BY THE COURT

~~PROPOSED~~ ORDER

On October 21, 2025, the Court ordered that the parties “must confer regarding Meta’s further investigation of relevant data sources, and must submit their proposal for completion of ‘first phase’ document discovery to the Court by **October 28, 2025.**” ECF 284. Having considered the parties’ proposed order, the Court ORDERS as follows:

1. On **October 27, 2025**, Plaintiff identified to Meta the creative optimizations for which Plaintiff asks Meta to further investigate the existence of relevant data and the feasibility of its production.¹

2. If requested by Meta, the parties shall confer by **October 31, 2025** regarding the scope of creative optimizations Plaintiff identified for further investigation.

3. By **November 7, 2025**, Meta must (1) substantially complete its production of what Meta understands to be the original videos uploaded by advertisers in connection with the alleged Scam Ads and (2) begin its production of additional text data. Meta shall make productions of such data on a rolling basis, concluding no later than December 5. If Meta determines that it is not reasonably feasible to complete its production of such data by the specified date, Meta shall notify Plaintiff and explain why in writing no later than November 17, 2025, so that the parties can meet and confer ahead of the joint status report due November 25, 2025. *See* Paragraph 6.

4. By **November 17, 2025**, Meta must (1) complete its investigation as to whether it can identify and retrieve the component parts of the Scam Ads that were impacted by the creative optimizations identified by Plaintiff; and (2) report its findings in writing to Plaintiff. If, for any creative optimization, Meta determines that it is possible to extract the Scam Ad components impacted by such optimization, Meta shall state in its report whether such extraction is reasonably feasible and if so, its proposed timeline to extract and produce such data. If, for any optimization, Meta determines that it is not reasonably feasible to extract the Scam Ad components impacted by such optimization, Meta shall notify Plaintiff and explain why in writing no later than November 17, 2025, so that the parties can meet and confer ahead of the joint status report due November 25,

¹ Plaintiff has informed Meta that, by agreeing to identify these optimizations, he does not intend to limit his ability to seek specific additional discovery upon a showing of good cause.

2025. *See* Paragraph 6. If Meta determines that additional time is necessary to complete its investigation as to any of the optimizations identified by Plaintiff, Meta shall notify Plaintiff and explain why in writing no later than November 17, 2025, so that the parties can meet and confer ahead of the joint status report due November 25, 2025.

5. By **November 21, 2025**, the parties must meet and confer regarding the results of Meta's investigation.

6. By **November 25, 2025**, the parties shall file a joint status report regarding the results of Meta's investigation, and shall include any additional requests for relief relating to Meta's investigation and production of additional alleged Scam Ad data arising out of the following orders of this Court: Dkt. 276, Dkt. 284, and the instant order. **The Court sets no word or page limits on any "joint" portion of the status report; however, if any party files a separate statement regarding any matter within the scope of that report, such separate statement shall not exceed 1,000 words.**

7. By **December 5, 2025**, Meta shall substantially complete its production of all alleged Scam Ad data that Meta had identified prior to the October 21 hearing, including the original videos, additional text data, and thumbnails, and any additional alleged Scam Ad data arising out of Meta's further investigations per the following orders of this Court: Dkt. 276, Dkt. 284, and the instant order. Meta shall complete its production by **December 12, 2025**; provided, however, if Meta notifies Plaintiff after November 17, 2025 that it is not reasonably feasible to produce such data, then the parties must agree, or Meta must seek a court order pursuant to the discovery dispute resolution procedures outlined in the Court's Standing Order for Civil Cases providing, that Meta need not produce such data or that Meta shall produce such data by a different date.

8. Pursuant to Judge Pitts' October 27, 2025 order (ECF 287), the extension of fact discovery is limited to discovery related to completion of the investigation and production regarding the matters addressed in Dkts. 273, 276, and 284. In seeking an extension of the fact discovery deadline, the parties submitted competing position statements as to whether Dr. Forrest should be permitted to serve requests for admission in connection with Meta's ongoing document production and investigation. *See* ECF 286-1 at 3-6. The October 27 order provides that "[t]he magistrate

1 judge assigned to this case shall determine whether, during the extended period of fact discovery,
 2 Dr. Forrest may issue requests for admission in connection with Meta's ongoing
 3 document production and investigation." ECF 287 at 2. Having reviewed the parties' position
 4 statements, the Court orders as follows: **Absent stipulation of the parties, no party is permitted to**
 5 **serve new discovery requests without first seeking leave of court. Such request for leave must be**
 6 **submitted in the form of a joint discovery dispute letter and must include the proposed discovery**
 7 **requests at issue.**²

8 Dated: October 28, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

24 _____
 25 ² Mr. Forrest moves to seal portions of the October 3, 2025 discovery dispute letter and exhibits
 26 (Dkt. Nos. 274, 274-1, 274-4) on the ground that Meta claims the contents are confidential. Dkt.
 27 No. 275. Meta agrees regarding the specific portions of the discovery dispute letter and exhibits
 28 proposed to be sealed. Dkt. No. 277. As Mr. Forrest's sealing motion relates to a discovery
 matter, the good cause standard applies. *Ctr. for Auto Safety v. Chrysler Group, LLC*, 809 F.3d
 1092, 1098-99 (9th Cir.), *cert. denied sub nom FCA U.S. LLC v. Ctr. for Auto Safety*, 580 U.S.
 815 (2016); *Kamakana v. City & Cnty. of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d 1172, 1179- 80 (9th Cir. 2006).
 Good cause appearing, the Court grants plaintiff's sealing motion. Unredacted portions of the
 discovery letter and exhibits (Dkt. Nos. 275-3, 275-4, 275-5) shall remain under seal.

/s/ John C. Quinn

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1 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

2
3 Dated: October 29, 2025

Virginia K. DeMarchi
Hon. Virginia K. DeMarchi,
United States Magistrate Judge